Entitlement of Night Duty Allowance

3194. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the entitlement for both Night Duty Allowance (NDA) and Over Time Allowance (OTA), the upper pay limit is Rs. 2200/- pm (pre-revised) and not Rs. 6800/- pm (revised);

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Board of Arbitration had given the award for removing the pay ceiling of Rs. 2200/- pm for all non-gazetted employees on reference from the Staff Side of National Council (JCM);

(c) whether Government are considering the award for allowing NDA and OTA without any upper pay ceiling; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) As per the existing instructions entitlement for payment of Night Duty Allowance (NDA) and Over Time Allowance (OTA) is up to the national pay of Rs. 2200/- p.m. in the pre-revised scales of pay under the CCS (Revised Pay) Rules, 1986.

(b) The Board of Arbitration has ordered removal of ceiling for entitlement of NDA to all non-gazetted employees.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Promotion of UDCs

3195. SHRI ISAM SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Upper Division Clerks of ten years' regular service of Central Secretariat Clerical service have not been promoted as Assistant, so far;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to start Limited Departmental Examination for promotion of UDC as Assistant;

(d) the details of the recruitment rules for promotion of UDC as Assistant;

(e) whether there is a stagnation in the promotion of UDC as Assistant; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (e) At present, it normally takes between 15 to 17 years of service in the grade of UDC to get promotion to the Assistant's grade.

(b) and (f) Assured Career Progression (ACP) Scheme, providing for two financial upgradations on completion of 12 and 24 years of regular service has been introduced. Further, the Government decision on cadre restructuring of Central Secretariat Service (CSS) will, *inter-alia,* help in easing stagnation in the grade of UDC of Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS).

(c) There is a proposal to introduce Limited Department Competitive Examination for promotion of UDC of CSCS to the Assistant's Grade of CSS.

(d) As per the existing provisions of Central Secretariat Service Rules, 1962 promotion to Assistant's Grade in any Cadre is made on the basis of seniority, subject to rejection of the unfit, from officers of Upper Division Grade of the corresponding Cadre of the Central Secretariat Clerical Service, who have rendered not less than five years' approved service in that Grade and are within the range of senitority, specified by the Department of Personnel and Training.

Vacancies in Ministries

3196. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether different categories of posts are lying vacant in various Ministries for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Ministry-wise;